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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/927,298	08/10/2001	Nagaraj Dixit	264/070	4965

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EXAMINER

HARRIS, WESLEY G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2817

DATE MAILED: 07/24/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/927,298

Applicant(s)

DIXIT ET AL.

Examiner

Wesley G. Harris

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Alley

Alley discloses in Figure 5 an impedance matching circuit for tuning an active device which is disclosed to be an FET (field effect transistor) 84a”, comprising a transmission line 96b” for electrically coupling a radio frequency signal between a source inherently connected to input terminal 8a and load which is inherently connected to terminal 80b of the circuit comprising the active device, wherein the length of the transmission line is adjusted to achieve a selected (i.e. impedance) performance characteristic of the device (Col 9, lines 9-12) as recited by the applicant in claim 1 and 6.

Further note that a performance characteristic of a matching circuit includes input return loss and output return loss and where a gain (i.e. of the FET) is inherently achieved as recited by the applicant in claim 2-4.

Claims 7-10, 12-14, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cioffi.

Cioffi discloses a method of tuning an active device (e.g. 12 in Fig 1) wherein the method is measuring a performance characteristic of the device (Col 9, lines 47-49) and adjusting the

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length of the transmission line (Col 9, lines 33-36) to adjust the performance characteristic (Col 6, lines 5-6) as recited in claim 7 and 13.

Cioffi further discloses that a performance characteristic is input and output return loss and gain (Col 9 lines 34-36) and that the active device is an FET (Col 7 lines 51-56) as recited in claims 8-10, 12, 14, and 16-18.

Note that no patentable weight has been given to "a power amplifier" as recited in the preamble of claim 13 because nothing in the claim language in the body of the claim limits itself to that of a power amplifier

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Alley in view of Mannerstrale et al.

Alley discloses the structure of claim 1 but does not disclose the limitation of claim 5 that states, "...The length of the transmission line is adjusted by laser trimming".

Mannerstrale et al teaches in col 3 lines 17-22 that transmission lines can be trimmed. He further teaches in Col 6 lines 56-59 that laser trimming can be performed to adjust transmission lines.

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It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to have adjusted the length of the transmission lines by laser trimming as taught by Mannerstrale et al.

Accordingly such a modification would have been considered an art recognized equivalent of adjusting a transmission line.

Claims 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Cioffi in view of Mannerstrale et al.

Cioffi discloses the method of claims 7 and 13 but does not disclose the limitation of claim 11 and 15 that states, "...The length of the transmission line is adjusted by laser trimming".

Mannerstrale et al teaches in col 3 lines 17-22 that transmission lines can be trimmed. He further teaches in Col 6 lines 56-59 that laser trimming can be performed to adjust transmission lines.

It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to have adjusted the length of the transmission lines by laser trimming as taught by Mannerstrale et al.

Accordingly such a modification would have been considered an art recognized equivalent of adjusting a transmission line.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wesley G. Harris whose telephone number is (703) 305-4008. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am to 6 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Pascal can be reached on (703) 308-4909. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Wesley G. Harris
Examiner
Art Unit 2817

WH
July 19, 2002

BENNY T. LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2817